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C O P Y.

FROM: Stars and Stripes

DATE: Nov 3, 1949

RE : Spandau

A rare East-West agreement promised yesterday to cut the huge prison costs on Rudolf Hess, ex-deputy fuhrer, for Berlin taxpayers.

Under an austerity program drafted by the Soviet, American, British and French wardens, the German servants at Hess prison will be reduced from 58 to 20.

The inside maintenance staff of 17 United Nations citizens will be trimmed to 13.

Hess and six other Nazi leaders convicted of war crimes at Nurnberg are the only convicts in the big Spandau prison in West Berlin.

The city government complained recently that it was made to pay $ 107,100 a year for "occupation costs" of Spandau, although the seven Nazis could have been confined in an ordinary jail for a total of $ 1,904 annually.

An Allied official said the staff economies would come into effect as soon as the Soviet warden signed the minutes of the last four-power meeting at the prison.

He estimated West Berlin's expenditure would thereby fall to $ 47,600 a year.

The four wardens, however, have made no provision to reduce costs for their home governments, which share equally in providing 72 military guards for Spandau.